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- said second electrical contact layer (50) is arranged on structured and/or unstructured portions of said current-spreading layer.--

--7. (Amended) The light-emitting diode (100) as described in claim 1, characterized in that

- the vertical structuring (40) is in the form of preferably regularly arranged n-sided ($n \geq 3$) pyramids, frusta of pyramids, cones or frusta of cones.--

--8. (Amended) A method for fabricating a light-emitting diode (100) as described in claim 1,

characterized in that

- a light-generating layer (20) and thereafter a relatively thick and transparent current-spreading layer (30) are deposited on a substrate (10) and the back of said substrate is provided with a first electrical contact layer,

- vertical structuring (40) to improve the decoupling of light is produced in the surface of said current-spreading layer,

- a second electrical contact layer (50) having the desired lateral structure is deposited on the structured top surface of said current-spreading layer (30).--

--9. (Amended) The method for fabricating a light-emitting diode (100) as described in claim 1,

characterized in that

- a light-generating layer (20) and thereafter a relatively thick and transparent current-spreading layer (30) are deposited on a substrate (10) and the back of said substrate is provided with a first electrical contact layer,

- a second electrical contact layer (50) having the desired lateral structure is deposited on the top surface of said current-spreading layer (30), and

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vertical structuring (40) to improve the decoupling of light is produced in the top surface of said current-spreading layer (30) outside the areas of said second electrical contact layer.--